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## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

1059 7590 08/04/2008

BERESKIN AND PARR  
40 KING STREET WEST  
BOX 401  
TORONTO, ON M5H 3Y2  
CANADA

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KEVIN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2629

DATE MAILED: 08/04/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/785,999

02/26/2004

Alexei Skarine

13210-20

6731

TITLE OF INVENTION: KEYBOARD FOR MOBILE DEVICES

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	11/04/2008

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.**

**THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.**

### HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

#### I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.**

# **PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL**

**Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE  
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**INSTRUCTIONS:** This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

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## **Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/785,999	02/26/2004	Alexei Skarine	13210-20	6731

TITLE OF INVENTION: KEYBOARD FOR MOBILE DEVICES

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	11/04/2008

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
NGUYEN, KEVIN M	2629	345-168000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.  
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
3 \_\_\_\_\_

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee  
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)  
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies \_\_\_\_\_

4b. Payment of Fee(s); (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.  
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.  
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/785,999	02/26/2004	Alexei Skarine	13210-20	6731
1059	7590	08/04/2008	EXAMINER	
BERESKIN AND PARR 40 KING STREET WEST BOX 401 TORONTO, ON M5H 3Y2 CANADA			NGUYEN, KEVIN M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2629	
			DATE MAILED: 08/04/2008	

## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 648 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 648 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/785,999

Applicant(s)

SKARINE, ALEXEI

Examiner

KEVIN M. NGUYEN

Art Unit

2629

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment and the argument filed on 3/25/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,6,7,10-13,15,18,19 and 22-26 renumbered as claims 1-15.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 5/14/2008, 12/20/2006
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_.

/KEVIN M. NGUYEN/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2629



### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ian McMillan on 7/30/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please cancel claims 2 and 14.

1. (Currently amended) A keyboard, said keyboard for use with a mobile device in which a display screen for displaying output to a user is provided, said keyboard comprising:

a) a plurality of keys, wherein each key is transparent; and

b) a housing for supporting said keys, wherein said keyboard is adapted to attach to said mobile device such that said keys overlies at least a part of said display screen, wherein said housing further comprises at least one actuator disposed therein for each of said plurality of keys, wherein each key is biased in a first position by said respective at least one actuator that supports said key,

wherein said respective at least one actuator is compressible to allow said key to move to a second position when said key is pressed and to move said key back to said first position when said key is released;

so that in use, when said keyboard is attached to the mobile device, said keyboard overlies a touch-sensitive element and said display screen, and at least one part of one or more images displayed on said at least a part of said display screen is visible to said user through at least one of said plurality of keys;

wherein said touch-sensitive element overlies said display screen, wherein, in use, said touch-sensitive element is actuated to send one or more signals to a processor when said touch-sensitive element is touched, and wherein said housing is adapted to attach to said mobile device such that said keys overlie at least a part of said touch-sensitive element;

wherein each key comprises at least first and second surfaces and is moveable within said housing, in use, between said first position in which said key does not touch said touch-sensitive element, and said second position in which said second surface of said key is displaced to actuate said touch-sensitive element, such that when a key of said plurality of keys is pressed at said first surface thereof by said user, said key is moved from said first position to said second position to actuate said touch-sensitive element; and

wherein each of said plurality of keys is lens-shaped to magnify the at least one part of said images visible to said user therethrough, and wherein said first surface and second surface of each of said plurality of keys oppose each other and are convex in shape to define the lens shape of said key.

13. (Currently amended) A mobile device comprising a processor and a memory coupled to said processor, at least one processing module controlled by said processor, a display screen coupled to said processor, and a keyboard adapted for use with said mobile device comprising:

a) a plurality of keys, wherein each key is transparent; and

b) a housing for supporting said keys, wherein said housing is adapted to attach to said mobile device such that said keys overlies at least a part of said display screen, wherein said housing further comprises at least one actuator disposed therein for each of said plurality of keys, wherein each key is biased in a first position by said respective at least one actuator that supports said key, wherein said respective at least one actuator is compressible to allow said key to move to a second position when said key is pressed and to move said key back to said first position when said key is released;

wherein said at least one processing module is programmed to display one or more images on said first part of said display screen, such that said keyboard overlies a touch-sensitive element and said display screen when said keyboard is attached to said mobile device, and for each key, at least one part of said images is visible to said user therethrough when said housing is attached to said mobile device, and wherein said at least one processing module is programmed to determine the at least one part of said images visible through said key when pressed;

wherein said touch-sensitive element overlies said display screen, wherein, in use, said touch-sensitive element is actuated to send one or more signals to a processor when said touch-sensitive element is touched, and wherein said housing is adapted to attach to said mobile device such that said keys overlies at least a part of said touch-sensitive element;

wherein each key comprises at least first and second surfaces and is moveable within said housing, in use, between said first position in which said key does not touch said touch-sensitive element, and said second position in which said second surface of said key is displaced to actuate said touch-sensitive element, such that when a key of said plurality of keys is pressed at said first



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surface thereof by said user, said key is moved from said first position to said second position to actuate said touch- sensitive element; and

wherein each of said plurality of keys is lens-shaped to magnify the at least one part of said images visible to said user therethrough, and wherein said first surface and second surface of each of said plurality of keys oppose each other and are convex in shape to define the lens shape of said key.

***Response to Amendment***

Examiner's amendment dated on 7/30/3008 is acknowledged.

Applicant's amendment and response filed on 3/25/2008 are acknowledged and entered.

Claims 1, 6, 7, 11, 13, 23, and 24 are amended; claims 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 14, 16, 17, 20 and 21 are cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10-15, 18, 19 and 22-26 are currently pending and are under consideration in this Office Action.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments, see pages 6-9, filed on 3/25/2008, with respect to the amendment under prior art of recode have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection of claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 10-13, 15, 18, 19 and 22-26 has been withdrawn.

**REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 10-13, 15, 18, 19 and 22-26 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10-15, 18, 19 and 22-26 are allowable for the reasons amended and argued by the applicant in the response filed on 3/25/2008. And the reason amended by the examiner dated on 7/30/2008.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KEVIN M. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-7697. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on (571)272-7681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/KEVIN M. NGUYEN/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2629